

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 11-17, 19, and 20 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A spacer discharging apparatus of an FED (field emission display), comprising:

a ~~discharge path for connecting~~ resistor connected between an anode electrode and a spacer ground electrode of an FED; and

a switch unit for selectively connecting ~~the discharge path~~ the resistor to the anode electrode or to the spacer ground electrode in order to discharge electric charge charged in a spacer of the FED, during a blanking time period.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the switch unit is connected in series between the anode electrode and the spacer ground electrode and selectively turned on/off.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the switch unit applies a pulse control signal in synchronization with a vertical synchronous signal to the anode electrode during an interval where a voltage applied to the anode electrode is cut off.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the switch unit applies a pulse control signal in synchronization with a vertical synchronous signal to the anode electrode during ~~[[a]]~~ the blanking time period.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the blanking time period indicates time during which no image is displayed on a screen of the FED or a pulse duration of the vertical synchronous signal (V sync).

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the pulse control signal is repeatedly applied at certain period intervals on the basis of the vertical synchronous signal.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the certain period is determined depending on a discharge state or a noise state of the FED.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the switch unit comprises:  
a switch for selectively connecting the anode electrode and the spacer ground electrode;  
a buffer and inverter signal unit for outputting a control signal to control the switch; and  
a transistor for outputting a driving current to drive the switch upon receiving a control signal from the buffer and inverter signal unit.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the switch is one of a high voltage relay, a high voltage switch and thyristor.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the switch is turned on when a current flows to the transistor, and turned off when no current flows to the transistor.

11. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
a protection ~~resister~~ resistor connected between the anode electrode and a high voltage power source unit applying a high voltage to the anode electrode.

12. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the protection ~~resister~~ resistor has a resistance value of a few K ~ scores of M[ohm].

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising: wherein ~~the a discharge-controlling-resister for controlling~~ resistor controls discharge time and a residual voltage.

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~13~~ 1, wherein the ~~discharge controlling resister~~ the switch unit is connected between the ~~switch-unit~~ resistor and the ~~spacer-ground~~ anode electrode.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13 1, wherein the discharge ~~controlling resistor~~ switch unit is connected between the ~~switch unit~~ resistor and the ~~anode~~ spacer ground electrode.

16. (Currently Amended) A spacer discharging method of an FED (field emission display) comprising:

~~forming a discharge path connecting an anode electrode and a spacer ground electrode of an FED; and~~

~~selectively connecting the formed discharge path~~ a resistor to an anode electrode of the FED or to a spacer ground electrode of the FED to discharge electric charge charged in a spacer of the FED, during a blanking time period,

wherein the resistor is connected between the anode electrode and the spacer ground electrode.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein in order to discharge electric charge from the spacer, a pulse control signal in synchronization with a vertical synchronous signal is applied to the anode electrode during ~~[[a]]~~ the blanking time period.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the pulse control signal is repeatedly applied at certain period intervals according to a discharge state or a noise state of the FED.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein in order to form the discharge path, a protection ~~resister~~ resistor is connected between the anode electrode and a high voltage power source unit for applying a high voltage to the anode electrode.

20. (Currently Amended) )The method of claim 19, wherein ~~in order to form the discharge path, a discharge controlling resistor for controlling~~ the resistor controls discharge time and a residual voltage is ~~additionally connected between the anode electrode and the spacer ground electrode.~~